

In the Claims:

Amend claims 1-8 and 25-27 to read as follows:

1. (Amended) An mRNA that encodes a VNO receptor protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 3, 4, and 6,
or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching.
2. (Amended) A cDNA that encodes a VNO receptor protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 3, 4, and 6,
or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching.
3. (Amended) A cDNA selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 1, 2, 5 and 7.
4. (Amended) A cDNA comprising residues 17-1088 of SEQ ID No. 1, or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching.
5. (Amended) A cDNA comprising residues 44-1088 of SEQ ID No. 1, or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching.
6. (Amended) An expression vector,
comprising a cDNA that encodes a VNO receptor protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 3, 4, and 6, or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching,
wherein said vector is capable of expressing the protein encoded by said cDNA or polynucleotide when introduced into a competent host cell.

7. (Amended) An expression vector,
comprising a cDNA comprising residues 17-1088 of SEQ ID No. 1, or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching, wherein said vector is capable of expressing the protein encoded by said cDNA or polynucleotide when introduced into a competent host cell.
8. (Amended) An expression vector,
comprising a cDNA comprising residues 44-1088 of SEQ ID No. 1, or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching, wherein said vector is capable of expressing the protein encoded by said cDNA or polynucleotide when introduced into a competent host cell.
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25. (Amended) An RNA sequence that encodes a VNO receptor protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 3, 4 and 6, or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching, suitably labeled as a probe to identify a nucleic acid sequence encoding a pheromone receptor having a homology of at least 30% with a VNO receptor protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 3, 4 and 6.
26. (Amended) A DNA sequence that encodes a VNO receptor protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 3, 4 and 6, or a polynucleotide that hybridizes thereto under stringency conditions of $0.1 \times$ SSPE, 0.1% SDS, 65° C, or a combination of salt, temperature, and other reagents that results in selection of the same degree of matching, suitably labeled as a probe to identify a nucleic acid sequence encoding a pheromone receptor having a homology of at least 30% with a VNO receptor protein selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID Nos. 3, 4 and 6.